



February 9, 2021

The Canadian Feed Industry Amid COVID-19

The Canadian feed industry is committed to providing safe and nutritious feed to all Canadian livestock and livestock producers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

As an integral part of the food value chain, members of the [Animal Nutrition Association of Canada](#) (ANAC) and feed businesses play a critical role in ensuring the safe and continuous supply of food to consumers in Canada and around the world. The feed industry has been deemed an essential service in the federal government's "Guidance on Essential Services and Functions in Canada During the COVID-19 Pandemic" as well as in all provinces where lists have been published.

Monitoring ingredient supply and demand

The feed industry continues to monitor the supply and demand curves of the livestock industry and is prepared to react to changing market demands that may impact producers. ANAC's advisory committee on COVID-19, formed at the start of the pandemic and consisting of members from across the country and the feed value chain, are monitoring the evolving situation closely. The committee meets regularly to proactively identify and mitigate any challenges we might face within the feed continuum to ensure there is no disruption in the manufacturing of livestock feed. ANAC is also in constant communication with our federal and provincial governments to discuss and resolve issues related to COVID-19.

Mitigating impacts to our customers

Possible feed ingredient shortages, both in the short and medium term, are being assessed regularly. Where shortages are identified, ingredient substitutions are being or will be made in formulations to minimize the impact on overall feed costs while maintaining the quality, nutrition and safety of the feed delivered to farmers. Despite all the mitigating measures undertaken by the domestic feed industry, complexities of a global supply chain faced with pandemic restrictions has resulted in increased prices for imported ingredients. Moreover, strong export demand for Canadian agricultural commodities is having an impact on domestic commodity prices as countries look to ensure food security by rebuilding their food and livestock inventories. A year of adjustments is expected in 2021 as these strong demands for Canadian commodities even out.

ANAC members recognize the importance of continuing to feed Canadian livestock while following recommendations of public health officials to safeguard the health and safety of employees and customers. The feed industry will continue to diligently seek out strategic purchases to ensure we provide safe and nutritious feed products, at the most competitive cost, to the Canadian market.

If you have questions regarding the work ANAC is doing related to COVID-19, please email mbosch@anacan.org.